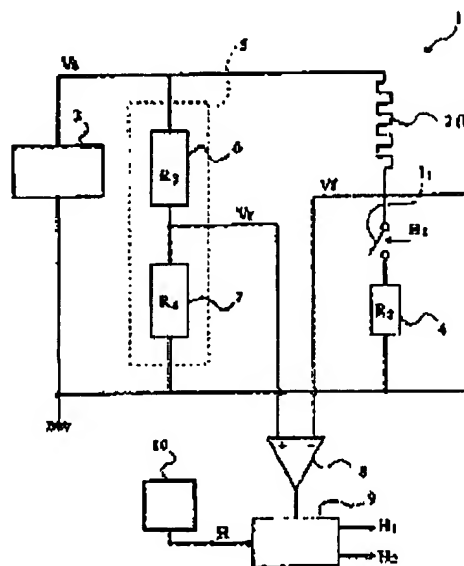


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The heater temperature is controlled by a resistance wire (2) supplied from an electrical energy source (3). The wire has a large coefficient of resistivity, with temperature and uses its hot resistance as a temperature indicator. This resistance may be compared (8) with a reference value and the minimum supply maintained, or reduced, when the resistance exceeds the reference. If the resistance is less than the reference, maximum supply is maintained. A reference resistor (4), producing a reference voltage ( $V_r$ ) may be in series with the heater resistance, voltage ( $V_f$ ), across a supply voltage ( $V_a$ ), for temperature comparison. A diverter switch (12), in parallel with the reference resistor, may be controlled (5,6,7,8,9,10) to open when the heater resistance is greater than the reference.



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